

1-12. (CANCELED)

13. (NEW) A method for controlling an actuator of a starting clutch of an automatic transmission of a motor vehicle in which the actuator is so regulated by a control apparatus that a starting clutch engages, at an indication of a desire to start as well as engages by an adjustment activated by a given transmission ratio, and disengages at termination of a starting operation, the starting clutch is operated during a starting procedure by control of the actuator in such a way that a torque (M_K) transmitted therefrom periodically varies.

14. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step conforming a periodicity of the actuator with characteristics of the vehicle and with those of an actual roadway obstruction so that the vehicle is able to overcome the roadway obstruction in a fully automatic manner.

15. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of taking into consideration, for a determination of a periodic actuation of the actuator, at least one of the following:

a vehicle speed,

a weight of the vehicle,

a radius of vehicle wheels,

ground contact of the vehicle wheels, and

forces influenced by a roadway obstruction and arising from a rocking process of the vehicle, which forces act against progress of the vehicle in a current driving direction.

16. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of maintaining a constant transmission ratio during periodic operation of the actuator.

17. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of carrying out periodic operation only if the control apparatus previous confirms that (1) a driving speed is very small or is zero and (2) a slip of at least one of the vehicle driving wheels oversteps a predetermined threshold value.

18. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of carrying out a periodic operation only if (1) a driving speed is very small or is zero and (2) a prior determination is registered from the control apparatus that forces working

against a drive moment (M_Z) of vehicle wheels exceed a predetermined threshold value.

19. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of carrying out a periodic operation only if the control apparatus has a previous confirmation that an actuation element for activation of the periodic operation is operated by a vehicle occupant.

20. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of selecting an activation frequency, for a periodic operation of the actuator, by adjustment of an actuation element.

21. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of calculating an actuation frequency by analysis of at least one of:

- a vehicle speed,
- a controlled direction,
- a controlled distance, and
- a speed of control of an activation element.

22. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of using a gas pedal of the vehicle as an actuation element.

23. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of discontinuing periodic operation only if a gas pedal for power control of a motor of the motor vehicle is engaged at a predetermined set angle.

24. (NEW) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of employing the method for control of automated shifting of the automatic transmission of the motor vehicle

25. (NEW) A method for controlling an actuator of a starting clutch of an automatic transmission of a motor vehicle for overcoming a roadway obstruction, the method comprising the steps of:

regulating the actuator with a control apparatus so that the starting clutch engages, at an indication of a desire to start and engages and at a given transmission ratio, and disengages, at termination of a starting procedure; and

operating the starting clutch during the starting procedure by control of the actuator in such a way that a torque (M_K) transmitted therefrom varies periodically.